

Applicant thus submits that Claims 2-12 are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests early notification of the same.

Respectfully submitted

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I, David R. Bennett, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner For Patents: Washington, DC 20231, on May 9, 2001.

Dated: May 9, 2001